

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 /019 W

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FM AMCONSUL BOMBAY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7548

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS BOMBAY 1943

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BFOL, IN

SUBJ: POLLUTION CONTROL SYSTEM FOR BOMBAY FERTILIZER PLANT

REF: STATE 183093

1. FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON THE T HQHRON CONTROL PROJECT WAS PROVIDED BY MR. Y.R. PAKKALA, CHIEF ENGINEER, FERTILIZER CORPORATION OF INDIA (FCI), TROMBAY UNIT, BOMBAY 400 074 (CABLE: FERTILIZER; TELEX: 3027 SUPHLA).

2. FCI OPERATES A NITROPHOSPHATE FERTILIZER PLANT WITH A CAPACITY OF 1200 METRIC TONS A DAY BASED ON A PROCESS OF NITRIC ACIDUATION OF ROCK PHOSPHATE. THERE ARE SEVENTEEN REACTORS OF THE PEC TYPE. DURING THENVEACTION PROCESS FUMES ARE EVOLVED FROM ACIDUATION AS WELL AS AMMONIATION PROCESS. TOTAL FUME LOAD (ALONG WITH AIR LEAKAGE) APPROXIMATELY 25,000-27,000 M3/HR. AT 100 DEGREE CENTRIGRADE. BESIDES NH3, FLUORINE AND P2O5, THE DISCHARGE CONTAINS FINE DUST PARTICLES.

3. FCI SCRUBS ACIDUATION AND AMMONIATION FUMES SEPARATELY WITH WATER SPRAYS AS WELL AS THE USE OF PACKED TOWERS. HOWEVER, PERFORMANCE OF THE PRESENT SYSTEM IS NOT SATISFACTORY
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SINCE THE STACK EXHAUST CREATES A DENSE WHITE SMOKE WHICH SPREADS OVER THE FACTORY AREA AS WELL AS THE ADJOINING BOMBAY SUBURB. FCI IS, THEREFORE, SEEKING A POLLUTION DISCHARGE SYSTEM IN WHICH THE EXHAUSTS SHOULD HAVE VERY LOW OPACITY AND, IF AND WHEN, IT SPREADS OVER THE FACTORY AREA DUE TO INVERSION OR OTHER REASONS, IT WILL NOT CREATE HAZE. MR. PAKKALA STATED THAT FCI WISHES ELIMINATE

THE VISUAL POLLUTION.

4. FCI IS INTERESTED IN CONTRACTING OUT THE JOB ON A "TURNKEY" BASIS TO AN ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING FIRM HAVING EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN THIS FIELD. FCI HAS ALREADY RECEIVED EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FROM OVER TEN FOREIGN AND LOCAL FIRMS BUT THE SYSTEMS OFFERED BY THEM ARE NOT EFFECTIVE ENOUGH TO MEET FCI'S STIPULATIONS. FCI WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE OFFERS FROM OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES IN THE NEXT SIX TO EIGHT WEEKS. THOUGH THERE IS NO FIRM DEADLINE, FCI WISHES TO SELECT THE CONTRACTOR WITHIN THREE OR FOUR MONTHS. MR. PAKKALA ESTIMATED THAT THE PROJECT COST WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY \$300,000 TO \$350,000. FOREIGN EXCHANGE HAS BEEN ALLOTTED TO BUY TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE PROJECT. FCI DOES NOT HAVE ANY PRE-CONDITIONS LIKE ASSOCIATING A LOCAL FIRM WITH THE CONTRACT OR BUYING LOCAL EQUIPMENT. HOWEVER, MR. PAKKALA INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST THE FOREIGN CONTRACTOR IN CIVIL AND MECHANICAL WORKS INCLUDING DUCTING.

5. WE ARE PROVIDING A REPRODUCIBLE COPY OF BASIC SPECIFICATIONS AND A DRAWING OF THE FOREGOING PROJECT. INCIDENTALLY, THE LETTER OF E.G. AND G ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, REFERRED TO IN PARA TWO OF REFTEL, HAS NOT REPEAT NOT BEEN RECEIVED BY MR. PAKKALA. HE ASKS THAT THE FIRM SHOULD COMMUNICATE WITH HIM ON THE BASIS OF DATA PROVIDED IN THIS MESSAGE.

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6. IN ADDITION FCI HAS ANOTHER ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL PROBLEM FOR WHICH IT PLANS TO BUY FOREIGN EXPERTISE AND ENGINEERING. IT IS SEEKING A SYSTEM FOR THE REMOVAL OF AMMONICAL NITROGEN FROM LIQUID AFFLUENTS WHICH CONTAIN FLUORIDES, SUSPENDED SOLIDS, PHOSPHATES AND NITRATES. CONCENTRATION OF AMMONIA IS OF THE ORDER OF 0.2 - 0.5 PERCENT. QUANTITY OF TOTAL AFFLUENT APPROXIMATELY 500,000 GALLONS PER DAY. PH IS 2-4. MR. PAKKALA WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE INITIAL OFFERS FROM U.S. FIRMS FOR THIS PROJECT.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: INASMUCH AS THE FCI CONTRACT FOR SMOKE CONTROL IS STILL OPEN, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE FOREGOING PROJECT BE DISSEMINATED, IN ADDITION TO DUCON AND E.G. & ENVIRONMENTAL TO OTHER INTERESTED FIRMS. COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO MR. PAKKALA. FYI: REFERENCE MENTIONED IN YOUR COMMUNICATION DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM BOMBAY.
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